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Local Charities Form Coalition to Combat Food and Health Care Shortages in Franklin County

The Coves Amphitheater pledges 100% of skybox proceeds to support local nonprofit coalition in 2025.

Union Hall, VA— Four of Franklin County’s leading nonprofits have united to launch *Neighbors in Need*, a new coalition dedicated to tackling the area’s growing food and health care shortages.

The initiative brings together the collective efforts of Ellen Holland (Free Clinic of Franklin County), Lisa Lietz (SML Good Neighbors), Staci Talley (Stepping Stone Mission), and Lucille Bowman (Transition Basics). Together, these leaders aim to amplify awareness, pool resources, and serve the region’s most vulnerable populations through a powerful new partnership.

To support this mission, *Neighbors in Need* has partnered with **The Coves Amphitheater** to kick off a major fundraising initiative: **100% of all skybox proceeds** from the **2025 Coves Charity Concert Series** will go directly to the coalition’s work.

“This partnership gives us a unique platform, not only to raise funds, but to tell the story of our neighbors who are quietly struggling every day,” said Dennis Crumpler, developer of The Coves. “We’re deeply grateful for this opportunity to work together and make a meaningful impact.”

The 2025 concert season at The Coves features an exciting lineup of nationally touring artists, including:

- **Tower of Power** – June 21
- **The Wallflowers** – July 18
- **Devon Allman’s Blues Summit** – August 13
- **Old Crow Medicine Show** – August 30
- **Young The Giant** – September 27
- **Eli Young Band** – October 10

Each skybox accommodates six guests and includes a private, climate-controlled deck, VIP bar and restroom access, and unobstructed views of the stage. Skyboxes are available for \$800 per show.

“It’s a way to enjoy an unforgettable evening while doing something extraordinary for your community,” said Crumpler. “Every single dollar goes to helping our neighbors access food, health care, and basic necessities.”

Since 2020, The Coves Amphitheater has donated over **\$150,000** to charitable causes through ticket sales, skybox rentals, and generous tips from its all-volunteer staff.

How to Reserve

Skyboxes can be reserved online at www.covesatsml.com/skybox-reservation. For information about seasonal rentals or group bookings, contact info@covesatsml.com.

About The Coves Amphitheater

The Coves Amphitheater is a premier outdoor music venue located at Smith Mountain Lake, Virginia. What began as small, socially distanced porch performances in 2020 has grown into a state-of-the-art facility with a mission: to bring people together through music while supporting charitable causes in the local community.

About Neighbors in Need

Neighbors in Need is a coalition of four Franklin County nonprofits—Free Clinic of Franklin County, SML Good Neighbors, Stepping Stone Mission soup kitchen, and Transitions Basics—working together to fight food insecurity and health care access disparities through collaboration, outreach, and public engagement.